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INTEGRATED AND COORDINATED IMPLEMENTATION AND FOLLOW-UP OF THE MAJOR INTERNATIONAL UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCES AND SUMMITS

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-President of the Council, Mr. Anwarul Karim Chowdhury (Bangladesh), as a result of informal consultations

Integrated and coordinated implementation and follow-up of the major United Nations conferences and summits

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 45/264 of 13 May 1991 on restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields, 46/235 of 13 April 1992, 48/162 of 20 December 1993 and 50/227 of 24 May 1996 on further measures for the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields, and 51/240 on the Agenda for Development, its agreed conclusions 1995/1 on coordinated follow-up by the United Nations system and implementation of the results of the major international conferences organized by the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields, and its resolution 1996/36 on follow-up to the major international United Nations conferences and summits, including the implementation of their respective programmes of action,

GE.97-63555 (E)

Recognizing the efforts made by the Secretary-General, through the Administrative Committee on Coordination, for establishing coordinating inter-agency mechanisms in support of integrated and coordinated follow-up of the major international conferences and summits,

Recognizing also that coordinated follow-up implies that the major conferences should be viewed as interlinked and contributing to an integrated framework of and a global partnership for development; in this context, major cross-cutting themes established in the world conferences need to be identified and built upon,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General [1] on integrated and coordinated implementation and follow-up of the major United Nations conferences and summits and of the report of the Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations [2] on the outcome of the World Food Summit, including action to be taken to follow-up the outcome at all appropriate levels,

1. Stresses the need to further promote integrated and coordinated implementation and follow-up of the major international conferences in the economic, social and related fields;

2. Reaffirms that system-wide gender mainstreaming must form an integral part in the implementation of decisions of recent United Nations conferences and summits;

3. Welcomes the decision taken by the Administrative Committee on Coordination to integrate the follow-up of the World Food Summit and the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) within the context of integrated and coordinated implementation and follow-up of United Nations conferences;

4. Requests all organizations of the United Nations system to further integrate the results of the major international conferences and summits into their programmes of work, to promote the effective implementation of the goals and commitments established by the United Nations conferences and to continue to contribute relevant information, analyses and assessment in support of the Council's own thematic and action-oriented reviews; in this context,

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[1] E/1997/73.

[2] A/52/132-E/1997/57, annex.

consideration may be given to the possibility of bringing out, on the basis of national reporting, a country-wise compendium of best practices of their implementation at the field level;

5. Reaffirms the need to continue to ensure the harmonization and coordination of the agendas and work programmes of the functional commissions by promoting a clearer division of labour among them and by providing clear policy guidance to them. To this end the Council could periodically organize meetings on specific issues to allow for more dialogue with the chairpersons and the secretariats, as appropriate, of the functional commissions, other subsidiary and related bodies and the relevant executive boards. The Bureau should also assist the Council in identifying economic, social and related issues for discussion at its sessions, and should maintain contacts with the bureaux of the functional commissions and other subsidiary bodies, thus allowing for better interaction between the Council and those bodies and assisting the Council to better fulfil its role. The Secretariat should assist the Council by ensuring that all functional commissions are made aware of the relevant recommendations of the Council and of the relevant work of other functional commissions so that they are well focused and supportive of each other's work programmes;

6. Stresses the importance of ensuring that reports on conference follow-up submitted to the Council and its functional commissions draw on the experiences gained at all levels and also stresses the need, for this purpose, of enhancing cooperation in the preparation of such reports between relevant departments of the United Nations Secretariat and the United Nations funds and programmes;

7. Decides to take appropriate measures to ensure that the regional commissions, within their respective mandates and priorities, can carry out their important role in assisting countries in each region in the integrated implementation of the recommendations of the major United Nations conferences and summits as well as to ensure the active participation of the regional commissions relating to the implementation at the regional level of the results of major United Nations conferences; to this end, the Council shall continue to enhance coordination with and among the regional commissions, including through more effective participation by them in its substantive work relating to conference follow-up;

8. Stresses the need for the Administrative Committee on Coordination to ensure that the highest priority continues to be given to the integrated and coordinated implementation and follow-up of the major United Nations conferences and summits;

9. Stresses also the need for the Administrative Committee on Coordination to ensure that there is effective inter-agency support to the work of the intergovernmental bodies dealing with conference follow-up, including the Council and its functional commissions, and that there is regular updating and feedback on the incorporation of the work of the task forces at the country level. The Council should be kept fully informed of the work and decisions of that Committee concerning integrated and coordinated implementation and follow-up of the major United Nations conferences and summits;

10. Encourages the Administrative Committee on Coordination to include, in its comprehensive review of the integrated and coordinated implementation and follow-up to the major United Nations conferences and summits, progress in the area of statistics and indicators, taking into account the work done by the Statistical Commission as well as other ongoing work, particularly the work being done in developing countries;

11. Calls upon the organizations of the United Nations system to continue to give priority attention to the provision of effective support to the resident coordinators, including by the full utilization and implementation of outputs of the task forces;

12. Stresses the need for a partnership with organizations of civil society in the integrated and coordinated implementation and follow-up of the major United Nations conferences and summits;

13. Reiterates the importance of the provisions on the mobilization of resources contained in its agreed conclusion 1995/1 for the effective implementation of the results of the major international conferences in the economic, social, and related fields;

14. Decides to include in the agenda of its substantive session on an annual basis the item entitled "Integrated and coordinated implementation and follow-up of the major United Nations conferences and summits", and requests

the Secretary-General, in cooperation with organizations of the United Nations system, to submit to it a report on the progress achieved by the United Nations system at the intergovernmental, inter-agency and country level, with specific recommendations on ways to enhance the integrated and coordinated implementation and follow-up of the major United Nations conferences and summits.